

Carlisle Conservation Commission
April 9, 2009

Chair Tom Schultz called the meeting to order at 7:40 p.m. in the Clark Room at the Town Hall. In addition to Schultz, also present was Vice Chair Peter Burn and Commissioners Tom Brownrigg, Jen Bush, Kelly Guarino and Diane Troppoli and Conservation Administrator Sylvia Willard. Commissioner Tricia Smith was not present.

Minutes, Bills & General Agenda Items:

Land Use Permit Requests:

*Burn moved to issue a Land Use Permit to Tom Brownrigg for a **Woodcock Walk at Foss Farm** on April 11, 2009 with a rain date of April 18, 2009. Troppoli seconded and all attending voted in favor.*

*Troppoli moved to issue a Land Use Permit to the Land Stewardship Committee for a **Birds of Prey Program at Foss Farm** to be held on May 24, 2009 at 2 p.m. Burn seconded and all attending voted in favor.*

Turtle Study at Greenough: Biologist Bryan Windmiller was present to request a permit to undertake Blanding's Turtle research on the Greenough Land during the spring migration period. He has conducted research as an independent consultant at Great Meadows National Wildlife Refuge in Concord since 2003 under permits issued by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife. His research will involve a trapping and monitoring study in order to track the seasonal movements and habitat preferences of this Threatened species using radio telemetry and/or visual observations. Windmiller will compile his findings into a report, which he will provide to the Commission this fall. *Burn moved to issue a Land Use Permit to Bryan Windmiller for a Blanding's Turtle study at Greenough, Troppoli seconded and all attending voted in favor.*

Irrigation Well on Fox Hill: Agricultural lessee John Bakewell and his partner Kevin Brown were present to request permission to install an irrigation well on Fox Hill. They propose installing a solar-powered pump on the well in order to fill the existing 275-gallon cistern. They also propose an additional cistern in order to provide for a 500-gallon/day capacity. The Land Stewardship Committee has not yet taken a position on the request. The discussion was deferred pending clarification on the following: determine location; determine whether agricultural exemption; consider precedent; site visit by ConsCom/LSC

Minutes:

*Brownrigg moved to accept the **January 22, 2009** minutes as amended, Burn seconded and all attending voted in favor, with the exception of Guarino, who abstained.*

*Troppoli moved to accept the **February 12, 2009** minutes, Brownrigg seconded and all attending voted in favor.*

Brownrigg noted that there are two sets of executive session minutes pending review by the Commission. The question was raised as to whether it is legal to distribute draft executive session via email. Sally Zielinski, who was present on behalf of the *Carlisle Mosquito*, agreed to research this and advise the Commission of her findings.

COC:

(DEP 125-738) Project: Hobblebush Lane; Issued: 12/9/2004, Extension to 12/10/2009: Willard reported that the project was completed satisfactorily in compliance with the Plan of Record. *Burn moved to issue a Certificate of Compliance for DEP #125-738. Bush seconded and all attending voted in favor, with the exception of Brownrigg, who abstained.*

(DEP 125-0739) Project: Applegrove Lane including wetland crossing and replication area; issued 12/18/2004, extended to 12/18/2009. Willard reported that the project is not yet ready to be considered for a Certificate of Compliance.

Bylaw Fee Review: Willard was requested to compile expense analysis data in order for the Commission to undertake a review of the current bylaw fee schedule, which was last revised in 2003. The Commission will be required to undertake the review in a public hearing.

Turtle Crossing Signs: The Land Stewardship Committee has recommended the installation of turtle crossing signs in several locations across town in order to reduce turtle fatalities, including Brook Street, Russell St, and North Road. Schultz noted that one of the Commission's signs that had gone missing from Foss Farm during the previous spring closely resembled a sign that had mysteriously appeared on Brook Street. Brownrigg said that resident Leslie Thomas has generously offered to donate board material he will use in constructing several new signs, which he plans to make "less cute" in order to reduce the possibility that they would someday end up adorning the walls of a college dorm room. Willard suggests future installations of the signs be limited to the turtle migration season.

8:40 p.m. (DEP 125-0852) Notice of Intent, Continued Hearing

Applicant: Robert A. Skrivanek & Larissa M. Shyjan

Project Location: 99 Davis Road

Project Description: Construction of a pool, patios and retaining wall and associated grading

Schultz opened the continued hearing under the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act and the local Carlisle Wetlands Protection Bylaw. Jonathan Bollen of Stamski and McNary presented the Plan. The previous hearing had been continued due to the lack of a DEP file number and pending a review by NHESP for potential adverse effects to the Priority Habitat that exists on the property. Being that the Plan was found to be acceptable, including the information provided relative to the proposed alternative siltation barrier material, *Burn moved to close the hearing for DEP #125-0852, Troppoli seconded and all attending voted in favor. Burn moved to issue a Standard Order of Conditions with the Special Condition that they may substitute Sediment Filtermitt™ in place of the standard haybale siltation barrier as proposed, Troppoli seconded and all attending voted in favor.* Willard agreed to provide the Commission with photographs of the project site once the siltation barrier has been installed.

8:45 (DEP 125-0853) Notice of Intent

Applicant: Andrew Barlow & Elizabeth Ahern

Project Location: 278 South Street

Project Description: Demolition and rebuilding an existing single-family residence and upgrading the septic tank

Schultz opened the hearing under the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act and the local Carlisle Wetlands Protection Bylaw. Mark Slager of Alan Engineering presented the Plan for replacing an existing three bedroom home with a new three bedroom home.

No basement is being proposed due to high groundwater levels. The septic tank would be replaced in order to conform to current Board of Health Regulations. Willard reported having confirmed the accuracy of the wetland delineations. With the details of the Plan being found acceptable including the proposed alternative tubular siltation “wattles”, Burn moved to close the hearing for DEP #125-0853, Troppoli seconded and all attending voted in favor. Burn moved to issue a Standard Order of Conditions with the Special Condition allowing the use of straw wattles for the siltation barriers, Troppoli seconded and all attending voted in favor, with the exception of Bush, who abstained.

8:55 – 9:00 (DEP 125-0854) Notice of Intent

Applicant: Thomas and Barbara Bjornson

Project Location: 38 Prospect Street

Project Description: Removal of approximately 60 trees within the 100-foot Buffer Zone of a Bordering Vegetated Wetland

This filing is the result of a requirement of an Enforcement Order issued on September 2, 2008 for tree removal within the 100-foot Buffer Zone of a Bordering Vegetated Wetland. According to owner Thomas Bjornson, several trees were removed due to safety concerns and lack of light/air circulating around the house resulting in mold. He testified that they began clearing the trees and were unaware of the wetlands regulations for work in the Buffer Zone.

The current plan proposes to remove sixty trees because the owners would like to undertake a garden. They plan to grind the stumps rather than pull them. Members of the Commission expressed concern with the extent of proposed tree removal. A site visit was scheduled for Saturday, April 18, 2009 at 8 AM. Willard reported that she had already undertaken a site visit and found that it was not possible to follow the wetland flags as they were not numbered on the ground or on the plan. The Commission determined that the flags needed to be numbered and a new plan submitted. In addition, there were no field data sheets with the filing and the checks for the fees had been returned to the treasurer due to insufficient funds. She also reported that there may be a potential vernal pool on the site near where trees were scheduled to be removed. With the applicant’s agreement, the hearing was continued to May 14 at 8:30 p.m.

9:45 p.m. Burn moved to adjourn, Troppoli seconded and all voted in favor

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Hopkins, Administrative Assistant.